
ORDER: The chair, President Carl Patton, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the December 15, 1998 were approved with no amendments.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Patton began his comments by thanking all those whose efforts resulted in the enrollment rebound that Georgia State has experienced spring semester. In particular, Dr. Patton thanked Associate Provost Yezdi Bhada for the work he did in this regard. At the budget presentation with the Board of Regents, it was noted that Georgia State's enrollment had rebounded while enrollment at the other institutions had not. Dr. Patton continued by commenting that the Legislative session was positive. He mentioned the 4% pool for salary increases which outstrips inflation and is higher than what some other states are getting this year. Dr. Patton thanked Tom Lewis for his efforts in helping to obtain some additional ADA money from the Board of Regents. This money will help with making some improvements on campus. Dr. Patton mentioned that they have already begun working on next year's budget and capital needs. The capital campaign is going well. The announced goal is $75 million and there is now nearly $60 million identified for that campaign. He thanked everyone for their contributions to this campaign.

NEW BUSINESS: Dr. Patton called on Carol Winkler to report for the Executive Committee. Dr. Winkler stated the Executive committee recommends a "do pass" on all motions on the floor today.

1. Motion to add a staff component to the evaluations of non-academic vice presidents presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Gabor Patonay, chair. The rationale for this proposal was that these vice presidents have a large staff membership and their input was missed in the past. The motion was seconded. Christine Gallant offered a friendly amendment: to add a Staff Advisory Council member to the ad hoc evaluation committee. Dr. Patonay responded that since staff are not tenured, a staff member on the ad hoc evaluation committee would be under undue pressure. Also, the ad hoc evaluation committee members do not express their own opinion but rather compile and report on the data. This was not accepted as a friendly amendment so Dr. Gallant made a formal motion to add one staff member elected by the Staff Advisory Council to the ad hoc evaluation committee. This proposed amendment was seconded. The chair called for a vote. The proposed amendment did not pass. The question was called on the motion. The motion passed.

2. Motion to establish a policy on posthumous undergraduate degrees presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal was the result of a request from the Registrar's Office as there was no formal policy in place. Having a formal procedure will allow university officials to respond with more sensitivity when this situation arises. The motion was seconded. The question was called. The motion was passed.

3. Motion to revise the scholastic discipline rules and create an academic improvement program presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. The proposal will raise the scholastic discipline bar and will put in place a system for meeting these higher standards. The motion was seconded. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. Motion to revise the student absence policy presented by the Student Life and Development Committee; Kurt Keppler, chair. This revises the current policy by adding a 15% limit to the number of absences. The motion was seconded. Carol Winkler offered a friendly amendment from the Executive Committee: to identify the
Provost's Office as the university official who decides what an approved activity is and to clarify the wording from "no more than 15% of the absences" to "no more than 15% of class hours per course per semester". This friendly amendment was accepted by Dr. Keppler. The question was called. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

APACE (John Newman, chair): The committee has approved the creation of the Middle East Center for Peace, Culture and Development as an outgrowth of our international education initiatives. They have received two reports under academic program review guidelines. The committee has passed two proposals that relate to general education. These proposals will be coming forward to the full Senate soon.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): In addition to the items on today's agenda the committee has been working on petitions for waivers of academic regulations and appeals for denials of admission.

Athletics (Rankin Cooter, chair): No report.

Budget (John de Castro, chair): The committee has met three times since the last Senate meeting. Under discussion has been allocation priorities, the budget presentation to the Board of Regents, PTI compensation, admission projections for the fall semester, Alpharetta campus needs, and new funding requests for FY2000.

Commencement (Carl Patton, chair): The committee continues to review the commencement ceremony proceedings. Alicia Philipp, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation, will speak at the two spring ceremonies on May 15. The committee has sent forward a proposal for an honorary degree to the Board of Regents.

Committee of Chairs (Carol Winkler, chair): In addition to the discussion of today's agenda items, the committee got an update from Admissions and Standards regarding the complexities of finalizing the academic calendar for 2000-2001. The academic calendar will be on the Senate's fall agenda.

Cultural Diversity (Molly Weinburgh for Maria Valeri-Gold, chair): The committee has met three times. The committee is working on the bylaws and is working with Institutional Research to develop a staff assessment survey.

Executive (Carol Winkler, chair): The committee has met monthly and in addition to today's agenda items the committee has reviewed a statement of interpretation offered by Statutes and Bylaws on that committee's inaction on several requests for changes to Senate standing committees and has reviewed the progress of various searches at the dean's and vice president's level.

Faculty Affairs (Gabor Patonay, chair): In addition to today's agenda item, the committee has been discussing PTIs, the conflict of interest policy, and several funding issues.

Fiscal Advisory Committee to the President (Ron Henry, chair): The committee has been meeting regularly. They have been holding hearings for deans and vice presidents on budget requests for next year. After hearing from the Board of Regents on April 21, the committee will convene a series of meetings to finalize budget recommendations.

Information Systems and Technology (Bill Nelson, chair): The committee has met monthly. They have reviewed the funding plan from IS&T units and made a recommendation to the Provost's Office for FACP. They have used that plan to develop an action plan for FY2000 for IS&T.

Library Advisory (Philo Hutcheson, chair): The committee has met once and discussed the library budget and the new library system, GIL.

Nominations (Bernadette Hartfield for Bill Kinyon, chair): The committee has not met since the last Senate meeting because their business was concluded prior to that meeting.

Planning and Development (Vijay Vaishnavi, chair): The committee has met one time and approved the MMRF list for FY2000 and the FY2001-2005 capital projects request list.

Research (Mary Ann Romski, chair): The committee has met three times and has reviewed the internal grants program and made recommendations for changes in funding for the research initiation grant portion of the program. They have reviewed and approved the center review report on CHARA. They have reviewed the policies and procedures for individual investigator expenditures for GSURF and will be working with the Provost on the search for the Associate Vice President for Research.

Statutes and Bylaws (Sheryl Gowen, chair): The committee has met two times and has drafted an explanation as to
why the committee has not acted on several requests for changes to Senate committees. Dr. Gowen then read a part of that statement to the Senate and stated that the full statement will be made available soon.

**Student Discipline** (Howard Schneider, chair): No report.

**Student Life and Development** (Kurt Keppler, chair): The committee has met three times and has been chartering new student organizations, has reviewed the policy on potentially destructive groups, has had several presentations, has reviewed the differential fee policy, reviewed the possibility of changing the 12 o'clock break and has approved putting the student handbook on the web.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Gayla Domke, Secretary
University Senate

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